



## **RADON GAS**

### **Protect Yourself from the Dangers of Radon**

*January Is National Radon Action Month*

January is **National Radon Action Month**. The Jefferson County Health Department is warning citizens about exposure to this colorless, odorless, radioactive gas which is the nation's leading cause of lung cancer among non-smokers and second leading cause of lung cancer among smokers.

Radon is naturally present in the ground and can enter buildings through their foundations. Both old and newer homes can be susceptible to radon. The only way to know the level of radon in your home is to test it. The Jefferson County Health Department offers "free" radon test kits to citizens while supplies last. (The only cost to you is to place the proper postage on the kit to submit it to the lab.)

State statistics indicate that between 5 and 10 percent of homes in Wisconsin have elevated airborne concentrations of radon in significantly occupied spaces.

More than 80 radon mitigation contractors in Wisconsin are nationally certified and install highly effective soil-depressurization radon control systems. Thousands of systems are installed in existing homes in Wisconsin each year. New construction should include features to reduce radon entry recommended by the standards for green building from the National Association of Home Builders.

Radon test kits can be obtained "free of charge" at the Jefferson County Health Department business office, 1541 Annex Road, Jefferson, Monday through Friday; 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Please call 920-674-7275 for questions.

You can find more information about radon on the DHS website at <http://www.lowradon.org>.

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